

Sr. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	1999-2000
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	461
4.	Assam	6625
5.	Bihar	17590
6.	Chandigarh	10
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	24
8.	Goa	1502
9.	Gujarat	31998
10.	Haryana	29668
11.	Himachal Pradesh	7622
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	2932
13.	Karnataka	34114
14.	Kerala	21284
15.	Lakshadweep	21
16.	Madhya Pradesh	24203
17.	Maharashtra	49858
18.	Manipur	203
19.	Meghalaya	944
20.	Mizoram	478
21.	Nagaland	315
22.	NCT of Delhi	100
23.	Orissa	20054
24.	Pondicherry	409
25.	Punjab	44145
26.	Rajasthan	38609
27.	Sikkim	210
28.	Tamil Nadu	39263
29.	Tripura	2004
30.	Uttar Pradesh	77333
31.	West Bengal	19378
Total		520829

Draft Investors' protection Act Prepared by SEBI

217. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has proposed a draft Investors' Protection Act seeking specific powers to attach the properties of the companies which are misusing investors' funds;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto; and
(c) by when a final decision in the matter is likely to be taken conferring this power on the SEBI so as to enable it to protect the interest of the investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (c) SEBI has sent a proposal to the Government for an Investor Protection Bill. It includes *inter alia*, safeguards against asset stripping and siphoning of funds, provisions to award compensation and for attachment of properties of companies which default on payment.

The proposal is being examined in consultation with the Ministries/ Departments concerned.

Smuggling Activities at Goa Airport

218. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the 'Business Standard' dated 20th June 2000 under the caption, "Goa Airport becoming smugglers haven";
(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and
(c) the steps proposed to be taken to curb the large-scale smuggling of contraband goods from Goa Airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not correct to say that Goa Airport is becoming smugglers haven. Whereas it is true that two Custom Officers were suspended in connection with a case involving seizure of a consignment of electronic goods booked by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence on 15/16.5.2000, the other parts of the news item appearing in the Business Standard dated 20th June 2000 are merely speculative in nature. In fact, the Custom officers of Goa Airport have effected seizures of contraband goods worth Rs. 49.94 lakhs including narcotic drugs, foreign currency, lap top computers and other electronic goods during the year 1999-2000. 5 persons including 3 foreign nationals have also been arrested during the said period. As regards availability of foreign goods at Goa, it may be pointed out that with the economic liberalisation policy, almost all the